



# **Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego**

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Honors**

# Who Were These Three Men ?

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego are three men who are recorded in the bible for their great braveness and faith in God. They refused to serve any other God and for that they were saved from being burned in Babylon in a fiery furnace by King Nebuchadnezzar.

# Before The Flames

King Nebuchadnezzar was looking for men from Judah to learn the language and literature of Babylon. It would take them 3 years to qualify to serve the King. Among these men of Judah were Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. Four men who served God faithfully and abundantly.

# Before The Flames

The four men refused to defile their bodies with the King's food so they asked for water and vegetables. They appeared to be more healthy than the others who ate from the King. The King considered them to be greater than any other magician or conjurer he had ever encountered.

# Before The Flames

King Nebuchadnezzar had a nine story high statue made of gold stand tall in the middle of Plain of Dura. Once the statue was created he wanted to have a ceremony in honor of it. In dedication of the statue he had all of the people who inhabited that area to bow down and worship the statue when they heard the music playing. If anyone was to disobey these orders they were to be executed in a fiery furnace.



# All Flames Break Loose

While the ceremony was happening some of the officials noticed that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were not bowing down to the statue. They immediately told the King and he was highly upset. They were brought to him and he gave them the benefit of doubt and told them that maybe they made a mistake or they didn't hear the music so he said they would get another chance. The three men quickly cut him off and said that it wasn't a mistake and that they heard the music but will not bow to anyone except their God

# All Flames Break Loose


The three men said that even if their God doesn't save them they still will not bow or worship any other God. The king was astonished by their remark. He ordered his guards to lead them to the fiery furnace and he said, "Let's see if your God saves you from this fire!"

# All Flames Break Loose

His guards led them to the fire. The fire was seven times hotter than usual and they end up burning themselves once they opened it. The three men fell in but they didn't burn. They were walking around freely and singing praises to God. The King said he seen a fourth person in the fire with them which turns out to be an Angel God sent to save them. While they were in the fire they were singing praises to God.



# **Ashes (After The Flames)**

A large, conical pile of dark, granular ash or soot, appearing as if it has been poured and settled. The texture is rough and uneven, with some lighter areas where the ash is thinner.

**The King ordered them to come out of the furnace. Once they stepped foot out of the furnace the King seen how untouched they were and he ordered that their God be respected**

# What Was The Injustice & How'd They Protest ?



Refusal to bow down to the King's statue.  
Basically going against what he wanted everyone to do. They stood firm in what they believed. They didn't bow down to any other God.

# Similarities and Differences with Thoreau



Thoreau and the three brave men have many things in common as to how they protest.

- They were both non violent
- No matter how many others were worshipping or believing in something false they stood up for what they believed even if it meant they were to be punished
- Neither of them gave in to something false and unjust or disgracing to what they deeply and truly believed in
- They had their own mind set
- Thrown into something because of refusal to do what authority wants them to do
- Rebels (as society calls them)

# Similarities and Differences with Thoreau



The only major difference between the two protest is that Thoreau couldn't change the government the only thing he could really change is the perspective of how people viewed whereas the three men persuaded the King that their God was real and many changes were applied to Babylon because of their bravery.

# To Succeed or Not to Succeed ?

I feel as though them refusing not to worship the statue was a complete success because everyone got to see the power of the God that they worship and they had to respect their God in the end. They didn't have to stoop to low standards to get their point across. They stood firm in what they believed in and not once did they doubt their God. They were ready for anything and I feel as though it was a major success.



# Civil Disobedience ?



**The Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego protest is a perfect example of civil disobedience. They didn't fight or scream or force anyone to believe in what they believed. They were willing to face the price of disobeying the King. They went about it in a decent manner. I feel like them handling it the way they did showed how much they loved God and was willing to die in his name's sake.**